

## FIRE LOSS HIGHER

Kansas Waste for 1922 Will Be Nearly Six Millions.

This Is Half Million More Than in Previous Year.

DECEMBER LOSSES ARE NOT IN

No Large Conflagrations in the Last Thirty Days.

January Was Most Disastrous Month of the Year.

Should final returns for December, 1922 show fire losses equal to those of the same month a year ago the 1922 fire loss in Kansas will reach nearly six million dollars.

It is probable that the state's loss through fires this year will be at least a half million dollars greater than for 1921.

Official figures covering fire losses will not be received for December until early in January. For the eleven months of 1922, the loss in Kansas has been within \$147,197 of the state's fire waste for the entire year of 1921.

Considering the fact that the greatest loss last year occurred in December, the figures for the year of 1922 show a year ago would put the 1922 losses at \$563,834 above last year. The December, 1921 figures, too, are hardly fair for the year in view of the fact that there have really been no big fires this month.

In the twelve months of 1921 the state's loss through fire was \$5,301,203. For the eleven months of 1922 the loss has totaled \$5,154,006. The December, 1921 loss was \$711,237. That included the big Rose Trunk factory fire in Topeka. Should the losses for this month prove equal to those of December last year, 1922 will show an increase of \$563,834.

Following is the state's record for the twenty-three months preceding the year of 1922, from official returns by L. T. Hussey, state fire marshal:

Month	1921	1922
January	\$27,389	\$507,784
February	\$40,151	\$437,227
March	\$27,068	\$424,249
April	\$38,498	\$344,892
May	\$33,622	\$312,449
June	\$24,540	\$317,339
July	\$30,318	\$299,947
August	\$37,848	\$291,523
September	\$47,836	\$491,183
October	\$60,022	\$465,023
November	\$58,985	\$465,023
December	\$711,237	

Young People's Devotions

Miss Edna Umstot Would Develop Interest in Kansas.

Miss Edna Umstot, director of Sunday school and young people's work of the Kansas Baptist convention, is working on plans to develop interest in the "Daily Devotional League," which is a young people's organization under the direction of Baptist Young People's Union of America.

The object of the league is to develop devotional life of young people thru prayer and Bible study. Members of the league may follow Bible readings of their own choice, but it is suggested that the daily Bible readings for young people furnished by the league.

Circular letters are being sent to all Baptist Young People's unions in the state, in connection with the movement.

LINCOLN POST MEMORIAL

Exercises at Klugman Hall Sunday at 2:30 p. m. in Memory of 27 Confederates.

Lincoln Post will hold memorial exercises at the post hall at 2:30 p. m. Sunday in memory of thirty-seven confederates who have died within the past two years. The altar will be appropriately decorated according to the ritual. The songs to be sung are familiar to every confederate of the Grand Army of the Republic—"Tenting on the Old Camp Ground," "The Vacant Chair," "Battle Hymn of the Republic." Miss Ruth Pennick will be accompanist at the piano to Miss Buelah Lewis, soloist. Rev. Stephen S. Estey, D. D., will deliver the address.

Following is the list of deceased confederates:

1820—J. S. Langston, musician, Co. G, 1st Ohio.

1821—Sam Badger, priv. Co. H, 74th Ohio.

1822—David Nipher, priv. Co. I, 1st Ohio.

1823—H. H. Louthan, priv. Co. K, 120th Ohio.

1824—Edward Sipes, priv. Co. D, 13th Kansas.

1825—Andrew Loch, priv. Co. K, 187th Kansas.

1826—William Geitz, priv. Co. I, 5th Missouri.

1827—John A. Todd, priv. Co. H, 14th Pennsylvania.

1828—Thomas Busby, priv. Co. B, 48th Indiana.

1829—R. B. Wallace, priv. Co. I, 73d Ohio.

1830—H. A. Buck, priv. Co. F, 2d Kansas.

1831—Cyrus Dwiglins, priv. Co. G, 75th Indiana.

1832—C. S. Linbrey, priv. Co. K, 11th Kentucky.

1833—A. S. Embree, priv. Co. A, 40th Indiana.

1834—Benjamin Bolton, priv. Co. K, 49th Pennsylvania.

1835—Edmund Backenstoe, priv. Ind.

1836—L. Newell, priv. Co. A, 24 Kansas.

1837—C. Waters, priv. Co. B, 41st Ohio.

1838—Peter W. McKinley, 1st Sgt. Co. H, 2nd Mich.

1839—John J. Deussler, priv. Co. A, 55th Ohio.

1840—A. S. Palmer, priv. Co. G, 56th Ohio.

## Every Kansan Could Go Joy Riding New Years if All Cars Were Used

More Than 330,000 Motor Vehicles in State Now—Nearly Forty Thousand New Cars Were Purchased in Last Year—Shawnee Stands Third.

Every Kansan might go joy riding New Year's day if the owners of pleasure motor cars and trucks would pick up their 10-cent fortunate neighbors and go for a whirl down the county road.

Substantially forty thousand new cars were in the state at this time, according to records by Bert Cornell, in charge of the automobile department in the secretary of state's office.

A year ago the state registered 287,891 motor cars and 21,484 trucks. At present there are slightly more than 303,000 automobiles and 24,000 trucks.

Dealers demonstrate licenses and motorcycles bring the state's motor vehicle record above 330,000. It means a motor vehicle for fewer than every fifth person in the state.

In the new year the number of licenses to be issued will doubtless go considerably in excess of 500,000. Sedgewick, Wyandotte and Shawnee counties lead in the number of motor cars this year. They hold rank positions 30th in pleasure cars and trucks.

The Sedgewick county has 17,147 automobiles and 1,971 trucks. Wyandotte recorded 2,900 trucks, and 13,304 trucks. The Shawnee record is 10,266 automobiles and 1,241 trucks.

varied concert experience. She has been a soloist with the Kansas City symphony orchestra, and is the first violinist to play for a Kansas City Star concert. She has toured with the Kansas City Symphony orchestra.

Mrs. Margaret Fowler Forbes, violinist, who comes to Topeka the evening of January 4, with the third number of the "Little Symphony" series, which is to be held in the city auditorium, is well known in Topeka.

The work of Margaret Forbes has won for herself a distinguished place in the musical world. She is gifted most highly, and many leading newspapers have paid high tribute to her playing work. The Kansas City Star has this to say: "Miss Margaret Fowler showed herself one of the most gifted musicians of Kansas City."

While in Topeka she assisted in private recitals for the Topeka Music club with Mrs. Charles Kountz and the Misses Sara and Nellie Kountz.

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There is a distinguished quality about her playing that from the first bar leaves no doubt as to her performance.

PLAN DISPLAY MEN MEET

Discussions and Dinner-Dance Features of State Convention Here.

Plans for the program of the sixth annual convention of the Kansas Association of Display Men, which is to be held in Topeka January 15 and 16, are well under way.

The convention will open Monday morning, January 15, with an invocation by Dr. Edmund J. Kulp, pastor of the First Methodist church, of Topeka.

Addresses by leaders in the work of display men will follow, and a middle west, will feature the program. In connection with the program there will be an exhibit of display advertising arrangements, and a manufacturers' exhibit.

George Stone, Topeka artist, will be one of the speakers before the display men. A banquet and dance will be held at Pelletier's tea room on Tuesday evening.

Officers of the association are: I. T. Whitnah, Crosby Brothers, Topeka, president; Fred McMurray, Pequea, president; J. H. Everetts, Kansas City, secretary and treasurer; B. H. Logan, Knorr Clothing Co., president; J. G. Weiland, Lichesky Co., Great Bend, third vice president.

Wichita Raises Manager's Pay.

Wichita, Kan., Dec. 30.—An ordinance increasing the salary of Earl C. Ellitt, city manager, \$1,800, was passed by the city council here Friday.

It will become effective Monday and will give Ellitt a salary of \$3,000. Louis R. Ash, first city manager of Wichita and now of Kansas City, received \$10,000 a year.

State Journal's New York Letter

BY LUCY JEANNE PRICE

New York, Dec. 28.—China has grown tired, maybe, of having the Occident try to teach her too much, and decided to reverse the process. One of the games that has leaped into popularity these past two or three months is Mah Jongg, a game of the Mandarins that China sent for us to play.

Now we're trying it to the exclusion of pretty nearly all of our own western pastimes. Cheered by that success, she has sent another Chang Chee. It is a game invented in China about the time the Christian era opened, and used there to teach the youths of the country the rudiments of war. It doesn't go back nearly as many centuries as Mah Jongg and is considered fairly young in China.

A course of golf lessons for teachers in Brooklyn schools has been added to the list of subjects offered by their association.

It is nice to know that the spirit of a beloved man goes on thru his family. Mrs. Margaret Cesare, daughter of the lamented O. Henry, received a check for fifty dollars the other day, for a magazine article, cashed it into \$1 bill and distributed them among inmates of lodging houses and those who are forced to spend their nights in the open.

A cubistic Cinderella doesn't seem quite in accordance with tradition, but it went well, at least, when presented by the Junior League the other night at the Vincent Astor home. The opera was done in "expressionistic style" and never would have been recognized. I dare say, by the glass-stopped red princess of our fairy books, in spite of the mice and pumpkins.

Artificial Christmas trees have become quite a matter of course, and artificial snow has long been in popular vogue on the stage. But snowflakes made by the hand of man or improved machinery for real snow-coasting purposes are still a novelty.

That is what one New York hostess promises for a week-end party at her Long Island home in the near future. Mrs. Frank Henderson, known for her sprightly and expensive entertainings, has asked a crowd down to Villa Marina, her country home, with the promise of sufficient snow for coasting down her hills. If the sky doesn't

hold true, When Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Sr., lost her handbag the other day, its contents were exactly what might have been found in the handbag of the girl who had been waiting on her on her shopping trip. They were: the card of a furniture dealer, a sample of velvet and a broken mirror.

Westchester county burglars don't believe in shooting only tame rabbits. When they burglarize our weary commuters' homes, they turn around and show their willing sportsmanship by trying something different. Consequently, they broke into the office of the police commissioner of White Plains the other night and stole about \$500.

A perfectly respectable Republican club was dazed and amazed the other night when it was raided by a corps of policemen. All that the members could learn from the raiders was that it was the first step in a crusade to stop gambling. The club members admitted that it was worse than a gamble to try being a Republican in Manhattan.

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## FOR THE FARMER

Rep. W. E. Archer Has "Ear to the Grass Roots."

Urges Elimination of Useless Public Boards and Employees.

Hiawatha, Kan., Dec. 30.—With "an ear to the grass roots," W. E. Archer, Hiawatha attorney, who will represent Brown county in the lower house of the 1923 Kansas legislature, has been endeavoring to ascertain what proposed legislative measures are favored by the farmers of Brown county—one of the richest agricultural sections in the state.

"The farmers of this section are not demanding any special legislation that would add financially thru proposed loans or credits," said Mr. Archer, summarizing the following expresses the sentiment of farmers generally, Mr. Archer asserted:

Against issuance of state bonds (except for bonuses).

For reduction of appropriations.

For elimination of useless public boards and employees.

Against issuance of bonds by county boards of commissioners without submission of proposition to voters.

Against consolidation of public school districts.

Apprehensive of "any law being enacted which would facilitate the construction of hard surface roads."

Many believe the automobile license tax is too high.

Favor taxation of municipal bonds, now tax exempt.

Revision of mortgage law, to make owner of property to mortgage his taxes only on the portion of property he owns.

Reclassification of property for tax assessment.

Scaling down contingent funds to various state officers and departments.

To reduce number of employees.

"Wherever I can I am in favor of reducing the number of public employees," said Representative Archer.

He has thought of a plan, but have not worked it out as to details, whereby in place of sending a different inspector out for every line of business, that the state might be divided into districts, with a resident state inspector to look after several lines of business.

As it is at the present time a state inspector in one line will come into our town one day and another from another part of the state will come the next day, until the inspection of different lines of business required to be inspected is complete. I never have seen any very good reason why a man who comes to inspect hotels might not possibly have sense enough to inspect a barber shop or a grocery store.

During the campaign Representative Archer made the industrial court an issue. "I figured my announcement of the industrial court would cost me 500 votes in my old home town of Horton, where 600 Rock Island shopmen were on strike, and I did," said Attorney Archer.

He is not adverse to the suggestion that the industrial court be consolidated with some other board, and that through a view to making it just as workable, and less expensive. I will stand for the principle of the industrial court law.

DEMOCRATS WANT AN ORGAN

Committee To Arrange for Publicity in Southeast Kansas.

Independence, Kan., Dec. 30.—A number of prominent Democrats of the Third district of this state met yesterday for the purpose of making arrangements to establish a party organization in the Southeastern district.

They agreed to make a party of general circulation for the purpose of the Democratic party.

A committee composed of Charles Stephens of Columbus, defeated Democratic candidate for congress, Lee Goodrich of Parsons, and Thurman Hill of this city, were appointed as a committee to arrange for party publicity.

STUDENTS WED, THEN FLEE

Four 15-Year-Olds Convicted License Clerk They Were 18.

Hammond, Ind., Dec. 30.—Alexander Cornell, Bernice Payne, Michael Jakomek and Selma Clark, all 15-year-old Westfield high school girls, are being hunted today by eight frantic parents.

The children eloped to Bensenville, convinced a license clerk they were eighteen, and were married. Then they vanished.

Civil War Veteran Dead.

Smith Center, Kan., Dec. 30.—Thomas Clark, 87, Civil war veteran and a resident of this town for half a century, is dead at his home near here. His birthplace was in England.

Fuller Brush Salesmen Here

Eastern Kansas District Conference in Topeka Today.

Salesmen and officials of the Fuller Brush company are holding a district meeting at the Chamber of Commerce today, discussing sales problems and methods.

J. H. Smith, Kansas City, Mo., district manager for the company; Fred Gleason, Wichita, branch manager, and B. Wright, Topeka, in charge of the salesmen in twenty-five counties of eastern Kansas, will be in charge of the meeting, which is being attended by thirty-five salesmen.

The session commenced at 9 o'clock this morning, with a meeting of the officials. The officials and salesmen are in session this afternoon and there will be an evening meeting at 7:30 o'clock tonight, followed by a luncheon.

HOLIDAY TRADE WAS HEAVY

Christmas Buying May Presage Early Resumption of Wholesale Selling.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Altho lacking definite figures, department of commerce officials here today believed the Christmas buying this year was "exceptionally large," department and other stores have reported sales among the largest in many years.

Mail order sales, it is said, were the largest on record. Wholesalers reported several months ago—the season of buying by the stores—that they had received unusually heavy calls.

The situation brought about by the heavy Christmas buying was believed to presage an early resumption of wholesale selling to refill the shelves emptied by the holiday trade. It may mean, some officials say, an earlier adjustment of prices to new levels of cost, but the holiday buying, they say, has calculations none care to hazard a guess, as to the trend.

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BREITHAUPT TO LEAVE TOPEKA.

Y. M. C. A. Social Secretary Takes Position in Troy, N. Y.

E. B. Breithaupt, for two years social and membership secretary of the Central Y. M. C. A., has announced that he has accepted a similar position in the Troy, N. Y., Y. M. C. A., and will take up his new work February 1. He will leave Topeka about January 25.

"I dislike to leave Topeka very much," said Mr. Breithaupt, "but I think I should accept the eastern position which will give me an opportunity of broadening my education."

Mr. Breithaupt's work has been successful in Topeka. He has placed the social activities of the local association on a firm footing, and has also done much work in the local churches.

He is a graduate of the University of the Atchison high school and Northwestern college, Naperville, Ill.

THE FRIENDSHIP AND PATRONAGE YOU HAVE ACCORDED US ARE WORTHY INDEED OF OUR MOST HEARTY AND SINCERE THANKS

AS WELL AS OUR BEST EFFORTS TO RIGHTLY SERVE YOU DURING THE COMING YEAR.

W. H. RUTTER & SONS FURNITURE CO.

330-332 N. Kansas Ave.

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## VISITS TO CITY'S CLINICS

Total of 3,385 Persons Visited Them During This Year.

Social diseases led in the number of visits to the free clinic at the city health department this year, according to the figures for treatment or advice for social diseases during the eleven months, and estimating the number of cases for December, the number will be a little less than in 1921. A total of 2,298 persons visited the clinic for treatment or advice for social diseases in 1921.

A total of 3,385 visits were made to the city clinics during the eleven months of the year. The largest month of the year was November, when 377 persons visited that department of the city board of health. October was second largest for a single month when 336 persons were in attendance.

The second largest number of visits were to the baby clinics. A total of 441 visits were made to the clinic for tuberculosis, 263 for skin diseases, 159 for nervous and mental diseases.